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June 21, 2004

California Fair Political Practices Commission
 428 J Street, Suite 620
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Greenlining Coalition:

Allen Temple Baptist Church
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 Asian Enterprise
 Black Business Association
 California Hispanic CoC
 California Journal
 California Rural Legal Assistance
 CHARO
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 Council of Asian American
 Business Associations
 Filipino-American Chamber, L.A.
 Filipino-American Political Association
 First AME Church, Los Angeles
 Greater Phoenix Urban League
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 Hispanic Chamber, Orange County
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 Mexican American Grocers Association
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 Minority Business Council
 Mission Language & Vocational School
 Mothers of East Los Angeles
 National Asian Pacific Publishers
 National Black Business Council, Inc.
 NCAABA
 National Federation of
 Filipino-American Associations
 OCCUR
 San Francisco Black Chamber
 Search to Involve Filipino-Americans
 Southeast Asian Community Center
 TELACU
 The Unity Council
 Vietnamese Community of
 Orange County, Inc.
 West Angeles Church of God in Christ
 West Coast Black Publishers

Re: June 25, 2004 Meeting Agenda Item 17 (Adoption of Amended
 Regulations 18530.9 and 18531.10)

Dear Commissioners:

The Greenlining Institute and its coalition of 40 minority organizations supports campaign finance reforms that seek to level the playing field in relation to low-income and minority participation. For this reason, Greenlining believes that unlimited contributions to candidate-controlled ballot measure committees undermine equal participation of low-income and minority communities, and results in an appearance of political corruption.

We urge the commission to seriously consider the draft regulation 18530.9 to enforce the contribution limits that are already on the books. These contribution limits are consistent with state laws limiting contributions on the grounds of avoiding real or apparent corruption. Greenlining believes that the threat of real or apparent corruption applies to a candidate's receipt of large contributions, not to the use of such contributions.

Recently, Greenlining worked to educate low-income and minority constituencies on the need to ban candidate fundraising of unlimited and unregulated contributions to political parties by wealthy individuals, corporations and unions. Unlimited contributions prices-out the poor and mostly minority citizens from having an equal voice in government.

The proposed regulation 18530.9 will not only reduce the threat of corruption, but will bring needed restraint to excessive fundraising by politicians for ballot measures that circumvent the legislative process.

Sincerely,

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